

# Jimmy Wakely

THE COUNTRY  
MUSIC  
POWERHOUSE



Jimmy Wakely's country music career spans over 50 years. He has released over 100 albums and has been a member of the Grand Ole Opry since 1958. He is known for his powerful voice and his ability to blend traditional country music with modern sounds.

# JIMMY WAKELY

JIMMY WAKELY IS A PUBLIC-SPRITED CITIZEN, OF COURSE--AND AS SUCH HE'S THE LEADER OF AN UNSUNG GROUP OF HEROES WHO CONSTANTLY RISK THEIR LIVES WITH LITTLE CHANCE OF GLORY OR REWARD--THE VOLUNTEER FIRE-FIGHTERS OF PIONEER TOWN!

BUT LITTLE DID JIMMY OR HIS BRAVE BRIGADE REALIZE, AS THEY HURRIED TO A MYSTERIOUS BLAZE ONE DAY, THAT THEY WERE PLUNGING INTO A HORNET'S NEST OF TROUBLE AND DANGER, J.N...

*"Where there's  
Smoke there's  
~~fire!~~ GUNFIRE!"*

JIMMY, YOU'RE AS  
EXPERT A MARKSMAN  
WITH THAT FIRE HOSE--  
AS YOU ARE WITH A  
'SHOOTIN' IRON!



IN PIONEER TOWN, AS JIMMY AND SHERIFF BAILEY DISCUSS A NEW BANDIT THREAT...

JIMMY, WHAT BEATS ME ABOUT THE MIDNIGHT RIDERS IS—WHERE COULD THEIR HIDEOUT BE? WE HAVE SECURED EVERY FOOT OF TERRITORY AROUND HERE...

IT SURE IS A PUZZLE, SHERIFF!



AS UNOFFICIAL "CHIEF" OF PIONEER TOWN'S VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE, JIMMY HAS BEEN ON THE RUN...

PEOPLE NEVER SEEM TO LEARN! THEY'LL CARELESSLY LEAVE A CAMP-FIRE SMOKING A BIT—INSTEAD OF PUTTING IT OUT! ALL THE WAY!



FROM ABOVE THE LITTLE FIRE HOUSE ON MAIN STREET COMES A DREAD SOUND...

**SCREEEEEEEE**

THE FIRE SIREN!...AGAIN! SEE YOU LATER, SHERIFF! GOT TO GET OUR BRIGADE GOING FAST!

GOOD LUCK, JIMMY!



I'D LIKE NOTHING BETTER THAN TO HELP YOU ROUND UP THE GANG, BUT THE THREAT OF FIRES AROUND TOWN FROM THE HOT, DRY WEATHER HAS BEEN TAKING UP ALL MY TIME!

I HEARD YOU LED THE BRIGADE TO SIX FIRES LAST WEEK, JIMMY!



OR A DRIVER WILL TOSS A CIGARETTE OUT OF A CAR! THAT'S ABOUT THE WORST THING ANYONE CAN DO RIGHT NOW!

JIMMY! LISTEN—



MOMENTS LATER, THE WELL-TRAINED BRIGADE OF VOLUNTEERS IS SPEEDING TO THE DANGER SPOT OUT OF TOWN...

FIVE MILES UP THE ROAD, JIMMY! TOM HOBSON'S NEW HOUSE!

HANG ON, BOYS! I'M GOING TO LET THIS WAGON OUT ALL THE WAY!





HALFWAY TO THE FIRE, AN UNEXPECTED OBSTACLE BLOCKS THE ROAD...

JIMMY-THAT FALLEN TREE! JAM ON YOUR BRAKES!

STOPPED HER...JUST IN TIME! ALL OUT, MEN! LET'S GET THAT TREE OUT OF THE WAY!



SWIFTLY, THE MEN REMOVE THE ROAD BLOCK...

FUNNY, THE WAY THAT TREE JUST HAPPENED TO FALL ACROSS THE ROAD...

IT DIDN'T FALL! SEE THOSE AXE MARKS--IT WAS CHOPPED DOWN!

BUT WHO ON EARTH WOULD--HUH? JIMMY, LOOK!



THE NEXT INSTANT--OUT OF THE ADJACENT FOREST...

THE MIDNIGHT RIDERS!!

OKAY, MEN! LET THESE COYOTES HAVE IT!

BANG!  
BANG!



JIMMY, WE GOTTA HIGHTAIL IT! ALL OUR GUNS ARE PACKED AWAY INSIDE THE TRUCK! WE AIN'T GOT A CHANCE!

BUT WE CAN'T RUN FROM THOSE HOOGLAWS, BEN! I'VE GOT AN IDEAL.



**I** IN THE CRITICAL MOMENT, JIMMY'S ABLE BRAIN HAS QUICKLY SEIZED ON A POSSIBLE WAY OF COMBATING THE OUTLAWS

THIS HOSE CAN POUR OUT TEN GALLONS OF WATER A SECOND FROM OUR EMERGENCY TANK--IF I CAN GET IT GOING IN TIME!

HURRY! THEY'RE COMING AROUND THIS SIDE NOW!



JIMMY WAKELY! HE'S ONE HONDER I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO FINISH OFF!

ME TOO, CORBY! HAW! HAW! LET'S SEE WHO WINS THIS FIRST!



THEN--AS THE HOSE VALVE IS OPENED...

NICE ARMY, JIMMY! PLUMS CENTER!

SSSS  
POW!



UNHORSED AND STUNNED, THE ATTACKERS RETREAT IN CONFUSION...

LOOKIT THEM COMING! RUN! THEY SURE GOT THEIR TAILS BETWEEN THEIR LEGS!

COME ON, JIMMY! LET'S GO AFTER THEM!



NO! WE'VE LOST ENOUGH TIME HERE ALREADY! HOP ABOARD! WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THAT FIRE!



SOON AFTER--THE VALIANT LITTLE FIRE COMPANY ARRIVES AT THE BURNING HOUSE...



HURRY! HURRY!!

PROP THE END OF THE HOSE INTO THAT POND MEN! OUR ENGINE WILL SUCK UP THE WATER!

BUT THE FURIOUS BLAZE HAS GONE TOO FAR--

CAN'T SAVE IT NOW, MR. HOBSON! GOSH, I'M SORRY--

YOU AND THE BRIGADE DID ALL YOU COULD, JIMMY! IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT! JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS, I GUESS...



BUT IT'S HARD TO LOSE SOMETHING YOU'VE WORKED FOR ALL YOUR LIFE! ALTHOUGH I PUT ALL OUR SAVINGS INTO THAT HOUSE...

I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL! HOW DID THE FIRE START, ANYWAY?





WE DON'T KNOW!  
IT JUST BLAZED UP--  
A FREAK ACCIDENT,  
I RECKON--

ACCIDENT NOTHING!  
JIMMY, COME OVER  
AN' SEE WHAT WE  
FOUND AT THE BOT-  
TOM OF THE POND!



KEROSENE CANS!  
NOT EVEN RUSTED!  
THEY MUST'VE JUST  
BEEN THROWN IN  
HERE!

ARSON! IT LOOKS  
LIKE SOMEONE  
DELIBERATELY  
SET FIRE TO  
YOUR HOUSE,  
MR. HOBSON!



BUT WHY WOULD ANYONE  
DO THAT? MARTHA AND  
I HAVEN'T AN ENEMY  
IN THE WORLD!

THAT'S A  
PROBLEM I  
HAVE TO FIGURE  
OUT! BUT FIRST,  
I'M TAKING YOU  
TWO BACK TO  
TOWN, WHERE  
YOU'LL GET  
SHELTER...



LATER-- AFTER A FRIENDLY FAMILY HAS TAKEN  
IN THE HOBSONS...

SO YOU THINK THE  
MIDNIGHT RIDERS SET FIRE TO HOBSON'S  
PLACE OUT AT CACTUS RIDGE, JIMMY?

YES, SHERIFF-- AND THEN  
TRIED TO PREVENT US FROM  
GETTING THERE IN TIME  
TO PUT OUT THE BLAZE!



I DON'T GET IT! THEY'RE  
BIG-TIME OUTLAWS! WHY  
WOULD THEY BOTHER  
WITH THAT LITTLE HOUSE?

THAT'S THE  
PART I'M  
AIMIN' TO  
PUZZLE  
OUT! SEE  
YOU LATER!



PLAYING A LONE HAND JIMMY RIDES BACK  
TO THE RUINED HOUSE--DETERMINED TO  
SOLVE THE STRANGE MYSTERY...

SONNY, SURE AS SHOOTIN' THE MIDNIGHT  
RIDERS DID THIS! AND THEY MUST'VE  
HAD AN IMPORTANT REASON! MAYBE I  
CAN FIND SOME CLUE BY POKING AROUND  
THE RUINS HERE...

AFTER A CAREFUL SEARCH PROVES FRUITLESS...

NOTHING HERE! IF THOSE BANDITS WERE OUT TO DESTROY SOMETHING--THEY SURE SUCCEEDED!-- BUT WAIT A SECOND--WHAT'S THAT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE VALLEY?



BUT AS JIMMY CROSSES THE VALLEY TO THE FOOT OF THE MOUNTAIN--

HUH? THAT'S FUNNY! GUESS THE MOONLIGHT PLAYED TRICKS ON ME! THERE'S NO CAVE ENTRANCE UP THERE AT ALL--THOUGH A MINUTE AGO I COULD'VE SWORN THERE WAS! WELL, SONNY, RECKON WE MIGHT AS WELL GET BACK TO TOWN--



STRANGELY, JIMMY OBEYS THE COMMAND WITHOUT A STRUGGLE...

HAW! SO THIS IS THE BRAVE JIMMY WAKELY! LOOKIT HIS HANDS JUMP UP--HE'S SCARED TO DEATH!



ACROSS THE VALLEY, JIMMY'S KEEN EYES PICK OUT AN INTERESTING DETAIL ON THE FACE OF THE SUPPOSEDLY SOLID STONE MOUNTAIN...

LOOKS LIKE AN ENTRANCE TO SOME KIND OF NATURAL CAVE! BUT I ALWAYS THOUGHT STONE MOUNTAIN WAS SOLID ROCK ALL THROUGH! I'LL RIDE OVER AND HAVE A LOOK AT IT--



SUDDENLY--AS JIMMY WHEELS HIS HORSE AROUND--

THE MIDNIGHT RIDERS! THE WHOLE KABOODLE OF 'EM--WITH THE DROP ON ME!

REACH FOR THE MOON, WAKELY! PRONTO! OR WE'LL DRILL YUH!



BUT THE NEXT MOMENT--LIKE GALVANIZED LIGHTNING, SONNY RIPS THROUGH THE ARMED BADMEN--

YOU COYOTES WERE WATCHING MY HANDS! --IF YOU ONLY HAD WATCHED MY HEELS, YOU'D HAVE SEEN ME SPUR MY HORSE!

TRICKED US! PLUS HUM--





AS THE BULLETS FLY, THE CONVOY CAVALIER HURLS HIMSELF OFF HIS HORSE...

IF I CAN GAIN THIS CLUMP OF ROCKS, I'VE GOT A CHANCE TO STAND OFF THE GANG!...

**BANG!**  
**BANG!**



ONCE BEHIND THE NATURAL SHELTER, JIMMY'S TWIN GUNS KEEP HIS ATTACKERS AT BAY...

WE'LL WAIT HIM OUT! HE'S BOUND TO TRY A RUN FOR IT SOON... THEN WE'LL GUN HIM!

**BANG,**  
**BANG!**



KEEP DOWN! HE'S A DEAD SHOT!

WE CAN'T WASTE TOO MUCH TIME! WE GOTTA STOP THE STAGECOACH AT MIDNIGHT--

STAGECOACH? BUT THERE AREN'T ANY SUCH THINGS NOWADAYS... UNLESS--



THERE'S A CRACK TRAIN PASSING THROUGH TOWN TONIGHT CALLED THE OVERLAND COACH--NAMED AFTER THE FAMOUS STAGECOACH! IF THAT'S WHAT THEY MEAN, I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING--AND I HAVE AN IDEA...



GATHERING CLUMPS OF GRASS, JIMMY MAKES A BIG MOUND OF IT BEHIND HIS ROCKS...

THIS STUFF WON'T BURN VERY WELL--BUT GREEN GRASS ALWAYS SMOKES A LOT--AND THAT'S WHAT I WANT! NOW TO LIGHT A MATCH TO THIS FIRE...



STARTIN' A FIRE? IS HE LOCO?

HE IS, IF HE THINKS HE'S GONNA DUCK AWAY BEHIND THAT SMOKE! GET SET TO RIDDLE 'IM IF HE TOGS IT!







AFTER ANOTHER QUARTER-HOUR OF DEADLOCK...

**Gee!**

OKAY!  
RUSH HIM  
NOW! ALL  
TOGETHER!

OUT OF AMMUNITION!  
WELL!--AT LEAST MY  
IDEA WOULD HAVE  
BEEN A GOOD ONE  
--IF IT HAD WORKED...

BUT AS THE GANG LEAPS FORWARD FOR THE KILL...

THE PIONEER TOWN FIRE BRIGADE! NO IDEA DID WORK!

THE MIDNIGHT RIDERS!  
GANGS! UP ON JIMMY  
WAKELY! GET YER GUNS,  
BOYS--AH! FLEE IN!

RATTLING BY THE SUDDEN ARRIVAL OF THE  
AROUSING FIRE FIGHTERS, THE BANDITS FLEE--

SO THIS IS WHY WAKELY LIT THAT GRASS  
FIRE!

POUR IT INTO 'EM, BOYS!

BUT THE MIDNIGHT RIDERS WERE GOOD THEIR ESCAPE--

THAT WAS A CLEVER STUNT,  
JIMMY--STARTIN' THAT FIRE!  
WE FIGURED IT WAS THE  
BEGINNING OF A FOREST FIRE  
AN' WE CAME AS FAST AS  
WE COULD!

JUST  
WHAT I  
HOPED,  
BEN!

WITHOUT HORSES  
WE COULDN'T GET  
THEM CROOKS,  
JIMMY! THEY GOT  
CLEAN AWAY!

NEVER MIND,  
BOYS! I'VE  
GOT A HUNCH  
THAT BEFORE  
THIS NIGHT IS  
OVER, WE'LL BE  
RID OF THE  
MIDNIGHT  
RIDERS! COME  
ON BACK TO  
TOWN! I'LL  
EXPLAIN ON  
THE WAY!

TWO HOURS LATER-- AS A CROCK TRAIN ROUNDS A BEND  
HEADING EAST--

A BOULDER  
ON THE  
TRACKS!

I'LL HAVE TO USE  
SAND TO STOP 'ER  
NOW, HAL! HANG  
ON!



THEN--AS SAND SPRITS UNDER THE DRIVE WHEELS TO HALT THE TRAIN...

LOOK! THE MIDNIGHT RIDERS!

EVERYONE STAY PUT--OR WE'LL BLAST YUH!



HUSTLE! GET THOSE MAIL CAR DOORS OPEN!

A HALF MILLION IN GOLD BULLION IN THERE! WHAT A HAUL THIS IS GONNA BE!



BUT THE OPENED DOORS REVEAL...

YOU BANDITS ARE AFTER GOLD--BUT ALL YOU'LL GET IS A HEAVY DOSE OF LEAD!

WAKELY AND THE SHERIFF! IT'S AN AMBUSH! START SHOOTIN'!



BRIGHT MARKSMANSHIP BY THE COWBOY ACE DEARNS TWO OF HIS OPPONENTS...

MY SUN!

SUNPLAY LIKE THAT AIN'T HUMAN! HE DON'T MISS! EVEN FROM HORSEBACK!



HEAD FOR THE TALL TIMBER, BOYS! WE CAN'T MATCH WAKELY'S SHOOTIN'!

THIS IS ONE TIME THEY WON'T GET AWAY! WE'RE RIGHT ON THEIR HEELS!



THEY'RE HEADIN' STRAIGHT FOR STONE MOUNTAIN! FUNNY--THERE'S NO COVER FOR THEM THERE!

THEY'LL HAVE TO GIVE UP OR FIGHT IT OUT!





THEN--AS THE POSSE BREAKS OUT OF THE WOODS IN HOT PURSUIT--

THEY'VE  
DISAPPEARED!

THIS IS THE THIRD  
TIME THOSE MID-  
NIGHT RIDERS'VE  
VANISHED LIKE THIS  
NEAR STONE  
MOUNTAIN!



IT'S ALMOST AS IF  
THEY HAD SOME  
WAY OF MELTING  
RIGHT INTO THE  
SOLID ROCK!

MAYBE THAT'S JUST  
WHAT THEY DO,  
SHERIFF! WAIT  
HERE WITH THE  
MEN...



ON AN IMPULSE, JIMMY CLIMBS THE HILL OPPOSITE  
STONE MOUNTAIN--NEAR HORSON'S RUINED HOUSE--

THERE'S THAT CAVE OPENING AGAIN--ABOUT  
HALFWAY UP! BUT IT CAN ONLY BE SEEN  
FROM HERE!.. OF COURSE--IT ALL FITS!  
NOW I KNOW WHAT TO DO--



FROM THE VALLEY BELOW, THE POSSE WATCHES  
JIMMY PERFORM A STRANGE ACT--

JIMMY'S SHOOTIN' AT  
THE MOUNTAIN!

AND HIS BULLETS  
ARE MAKING A  
DESIGN ON THE  
ROCK--A CIRCLE!  
WONDER WHAT  
HE'S UP TO?



QUICKLY, THE COWBOY BEAR RIDES  
BACK ACROSS THE VALLEY--

FOLLOW ME UP  
TOWARD THAT  
MARK I MADE  
ON THAT ROCK--  
AND KEEP YOUR  
GUNS OUT!

OKAY,  
JIMMY!



SHORTLY, THE SURE-FOOTED STEEDS PICK THEIR WAY UP  
THE FACE OF THE MOUNTAIN...

A HIDDEN LEDGE

--THAT CONCEALED AN OPENING IN THE ROCK!

RIGHT! FROM BELOW, THE  
LEDGE SEEMS LIKE PART  
OF THE ROCK--SO IT HIDES  
THE OPENING! ON FOOT,  
EVERYBODY!--WE'RE  
CRASHING THROUGH!





A MOMENT LATER, THE HOLED-UP BANDITS GET A SUDDEN AND SEVERE SHOCK--

WAKELY-- AND THE SHERIFF AGAIN! THEY'VE FOUND OUR HIDEOUT!

START PUMPIN' LEAD!

THIS IS IT, BOYS! EACH MAN PICK A CROOK!



IN THE CLOSE QUARTERS OF THE CAVE, JIMMY HOBSTERS HIS GUNS IN FAVOR OF HIS RAMPAGE-LIKE FISTS --

YOU POLECATS HAD US FOOLED FOR A WHILE--BUT NOBODY'S GOOD LUCK LASTS FOREVER!

**CRACK!**



QUICKLY, THE BANDITS ARE BATTERED INTO SUBMISSION--

WE GIVE UP--

TIE 'EM, BOYS! MY JAIL'S BEEN WITIN' A LONG TIME FOR THE MIDNIGHT RIDERS!



AS THE POSSE WITH ITS CAPTIVES RETURN TO TOWN--

SO YOU SEE, SHERIFF-- THE HILL ON WHICH HOBSON BUILT HIS NEW HOUSE WAS THE ONLY SPOT AROUND HERE FROM WHICH THE SECRET GAVE OPENING COULD BE SEEN! THAT'S WHY THE MIDNIGHT RIDERS BURNED THE HOUSE--THEY WERE AFRAID HOBSON MIGHT SPOT THEIR HIDEOUT AND SPREAD THE ALARM!

GOLLY--



THAT CAVE SURE WAS A SWEET SET-UP FOR THOSE VANDALTS! I RECKON WE MIGHT NEVER HAVE CAUGHT THEM IF IT WASN'T FOR YOU JIMMY!

WELL, I JUST DID MY BEST SHERIFF--



LATER, IN TOWN, THE HOBSON'S GET A HAPPY SURPRISE FROM THEIR FRIEND, JIMMY WAKELY--

THE COUNTY HAD A FIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR REWARD OUT FOR THE MIDNIGHT RIDERS, MR. AND MRS. HOBSON! WE OF THE POSSE VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO HAND IT OVER TO YOU TWO--TO REBUILD YOUR HOUSE!

JIMMY, THIS IS --WONDERFUL!

WE'RE SO GRATEFUL!



THE END

ORIGINAL STORY BY  
**JIMMY**

# WAKELY

## "SADDLE SERENADE" LEE "LASSES" WHITE

**JOHN JAMES** Ray, William and  
the "Widow of the Purple Heart"

Photo and text by **James** and **John**

Copyright © 1997 by **James**

# JIMMY WAKELY

ON HORSEBACK OR AFOOT ON SOLID GROUND OR IN THE CENTRE OF A SWIRLING LOG JAM, JIMMY WAKELY CAN ALWAYS BE RELIED UPON TO GIVE A GOOD ACCOUNT OF HIMSELF--AND THAT'S TRUE EVEN WHEN HOLLYWOOD'S FAMOUS COWBOY STAR IS FACING ODDS OF 4 TO 1 AGAINST A GRIM AND DETERMINED CREW WHO ARE FIGHTING FOR SOMETHING MORE PRECIOUS THAN GOLD--

## OUTLAWS *of the* NIGHT!





"WAAL, I REMEMBER I WUZ DONE PERF' BUT THEN, IN A FLASH I NOTICED ONE THING--"



"I RECKON I NEVER MOVED SO FAST IN MY LIFE! I GUESS I WAS JUST A BLUR TO THET WOLF--AND THE NEXT SECOND--"



"THET CURSED WOLF TRIED--BUT HE COULDN'T GET HIS TAIL LOOSE-- AN' I WALKED AWAY AS EASY AS YOU PLEASE--"



"I WAS IN THE FOREST AN' WIND O' TUCKERED OUT, SO I LEANED AGAIN A BIG TREE TO REST-- AN' THE NEXT THING I KNEW--"





"WHEN I PICKED MYSELF UP, I FOUND I WAS INSIDE A BIG ROOM--FURNISHED NICE AN' PURTY AS A HOTEL!"

IN SASSAFRASE, NO ONE'LL BELIEVE THIS WHEN I TELL IT! BUT WHAT'S THEY BOX ON THE TABLE? TRY ME, IF IT DON'T LOOK LIKE A LI'L TREASURE CHEST!



"THEN FOUR RIDERS RODE UP TO THE TREE! THEY LOOKED LIKE GHOSTS, BUT THEY WUZ ALL DRESSED IN BLACK! THEN THEY SWIFTED ME--"



"I COULDN'T GET THE BOX OPEN, SO I DECIDED TO TAKE IT AWAY WITH ME. BUT AS I STEPPED OUTTA THE TREE AGAIN--"

HORSES! SOMEONE'S COMIN'! GOT T' GET!



"THEY STARTED PUMPIN' LEAD AT ME, BUT I RAN! I RAN FASTER'N AN ANTELOPE--AN' I GOT AWAY!"

KOKOMO! IT AIN'T THAT I DOUBT YOU--HA HA!--BUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT TREASURE CHEST?!

OH, I GOT THAT HID AWAY SAFE, FRED! I AIN'T BEN ABLE TO OPEN IT YET--



AFTER KOKOMO LEAVES--

FUNNY, FRED, THAT KOKOMO SHOULD SPIN A YARN LIKE THAT! THE SHERIFF TOLD ME ONLY THIS MORNING THAT THERE'S A THREE-STATE ALARM OUT FOR A BANDIT GANG KNOWN AS THE GHOST RAIDERS!



I'LL BETCHA KOKOMO HEARD ABOUT THE GANG AND THEN MADE UP THE YARN TO FIT! HE MAKES 'EM UP ANFUL FAST, JIMMY! HE'S GOT A NEW ONE EVERY DAY!

I KNOW! AND YET--WELL, I'LL SEE YOU LATER, FRED.







ACTING ON A HUNCH, JIMMY DECIDES TO TALK TO KOKOMO PRIVATELY...

KOKOMO TRUSTS ME!  
IF I CAN GET HIM TO SHOW ME THAT BOX, I'LL  
KNOW THERE'S SOMETHING TO THAT WILD STORY  
OF HIS!... HERE'S HIS CABIN... HOPE HE'S IN...



AS JIMMY STARTS TOWARD THE CABIN...

TELL US WHERE  
THAT BOX IS, YUH  
OLD GOSHER, OR  
WE'LL SHOOT!

I AMN'T A-SCARED O'  
YUH MONKEYS, YUH  
WONT KILL ME CAUSE  
THEN YUH'D NEVER  
FIND THE BOX!



KOKOMO--AND  
THE GHOST  
RAIDERS!

LET'S TAKE HIM BACK TO  
OUR HIDEOUT! WE'LL GET  
HIM TO TALK THERE ALL  
RIGHT!



INSTANTLY, THE COWBOY ACE LEAPS INTO ACTION--

YOU COSTUMED CATAMOUNTS  
WONT TAKE HIM ANYWHERE!

JIMMY  
WAKELY!  
GRAB  
HIM!



DON'T SHOOT UNLESS  
YOU HAVE TO! IT'LL  
BRING THE WHOLE  
TOWN HERE!

WE CAN FINISH  
HIM OFF WITH--  
OUT GUNS!



THAT'S FUNNY--I'VE GOT  
THE SAME IDEA! LET'S  
SEE WHO'S RIGHT!

**CRACK**





SUDDENLY, JIMMY TAKES A HEAVY BLOW THAT SENDS HIM STAGGERING TO A WALL UNDER A BIG MOOSE-HEAD...

**SOCK!**

GOT HIM OFF BALANCE!  
LET'S TEAR INTO HIM!



THEN FROM BEHIND, HOWEDOW'S WESTERN ACE RECEIVES A CRUEL BLOW--

LANDED PLUMB CENTER  
WITH THIS POWER! HE'S  
DONE FOR NOW!

**CRUNCH!**



SOON AFTER...IN OPEN COUNTRY...

THESE GHOST RIDERS ARE MIGHTY SMART!  
THEY MADE SURE THEY'D COVER THEIR TRACKS  
BY RIDING ALONG THIS STREAM! NOW WHICH  
WAY DID THEY GO? I'LL LOSE A LOT OF TIME  
IF I GUESS WRONG!--



BUT AS JIMMY SPRINGS BACK, HE RIPS THE MOOSE-HEAD FROM THE WALL AND--

**POW!**

THIS FIGHT'S  
NOT OVER BY  
A LONG SHOT,  
GENTS!



WHEN JIMMY COMES TO...

ONLY AN STETSON<sup>®</sup> SAVED ME  
FROM HINDING UP WITH A SPILT  
SKULL! THOSE CONNARDY POLI-  
CATS HAVE BEAT IT--TAKING  
HOWOWD LARRY WITH THEM!  
I'VE GOT TO PICK UP THEIR  
TRAIL--PRONTO!

"EDITOR'S  
NOTE: THE  
HEAVY FELT OF  
A CONNARD  
STETSON  
OFFEN  
PROTECTS  
HIM FROM  
BURNS ON  
THE HEAD  
IN FALLS,  
FIGHTS,  
ETC..."



THERE'S SCARCELY A MOMENT'S HESITATION,  
BEFORE JIMMY'S SHARP MIND WORKS OUT A  
SOLUTION...

IF I BELIEVE HOWOWD'S STORY,  
THERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE WHERE TREES GROW BIG  
ENOUGH FOR CROOKS TO HIDE A HIDEOUT IN ONE  
OF THEM! AND THAT'S THE REDWOOD FOREST!  
GIT, SONNY!





**SOON AFTER—THE HARD-RIDING COWBOY APPROACHES THE EDGE OF THE FOREST...**

THERE THEY ARE—THE GREAT REDWOODS! BUT HOW TO TELL WHICH ONE THE BANDITS HAVE THEIR HIDEOUT IN? THIS GROUND IS TOO HARD TO SHOW TRACKS...



\*EDITOR'S NOTE! THE SHAM REDWOOD, A NATIVE AMERICAN TREE, OFTEN GROWS TO A WIDTH OF 30 FEET!

A STRAIGHT CRACK IN THE BARK, AS, IF IT HAD BEEN CUT! THIS MUST BE IT! KOKOMO SAYS HE LIANED AGAINST IT AND IT OPENED—SO IF I PUSH IN AT THE RIGHT PLACE...



THE COWBOY CAVALIER PUSHES, AND AS HE DOES, HE EXECUTES AN ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE MANUEVER—

BEFORE I HIT THE GROUND—GOT TO DRAW—AND SHOOT—BEFORE HE DOES.



**NATURE LOAN COMES TO JIMMY'S AID...**

IF THERE'S REALLY A SIZEABLE HOLLOW INSIDE THE TRUNK OF ONE OF THESE TREES, IT MUST BE A DEAD ONE OR STILL DYING! NO TREE COULD LIVE LONG WITH SUCH A HOLE IN IT—HUMAN—YES! AND THERE'S ONE WITH HARDLY ANY LEAVES!



**PRESSURE IS APPLIED AGAINST THE TREE—AND—**

...WHOOP! PUSHED TOO HARD!

WAKELY! THIS TIME I'LL USE MY GUN!



JIMMY, I NEVER SEEN GUNPLAY LIKE THAT BEFORE!

NEVER MIND THAT NOW, KOKOMO! YOU SAY THE REST OF THE GANG FORCED YOU TO TELL WHERE YOU HID THE BOX—AND THAT THEY HAD GONE AFTER IT... ALL RIGHT! NOW LISTEN CAREFULLY... BECAUSE THIS IS WHAT I WANT YOU TO DO—



AFTER JIMMY HAS LEARNED FROM KOKOMO WHERE THE BOX IS HIDDEN...

WHILE KOKOMO TAKES THAT CROOK IN, I'LL TRY TO ROUND UP THE REST OF THE GANG! BUT I STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHY THE GHOST RANGERS ARE WORKING LIKE MAD TO RECOVER THAT LITTLE BOX? WHAT COULD BE IN IT?



SILENTLY, A COILED NOOSE SHOOTS INTO THE MOUTH OF THE BANDITS, AND...

WAKELY AGAIN!  
HE'S BORED OUR BOX!



MEANWHILE... AT THE SITE OF THE REDWOOD SAWMILL COMPANY NOT FAR AWAY...

HERE IT IS... IN THIS OLD TOOL LOCKER! JUST LIKE THE Gaffer SAID!

AND IT HASN'T BEEN OPENED! WHEN! THAT'S A RELIEF!



THEY'LL FOLLOW ME OUT ON THIS LOG JAM—WHERE THEY'LL BE SO UNSTEADY THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO USE THEIR GUNS...

THAT DERRICK CONBOY HAS CROSSED OUR PATH ONCE TOO OFTEN FOR HIM! GET IN!



TAKING THE BOX TO THE FAR SIDE OF THE RIVER, JIMMY TURNS TO ARREST HIS FOES...

HEY! I—I CAN'T  
—GET A—DECENT  
—SHOT AT—HIM—

IT'S WORKING!  
THIS LOG'S START-  
ING TO ROLL!—  
AND THEY'RE  
SHOOTING WILD!



NIMBLE AS A CAT ON HIS FEET, THE AGILE COWBOY'S FIRST PARTS OUT...

RIDING A LOG'S EASY  
—IF YOU KNOW HOW!





ONE BY ONE THE GHOST RAIDERS ARE CATALEDGED INTO THE WATER...

SURE FOR THE SHORE WHERE HE THREW THE BOX! WE'LL GRAB IT AN' SETTLE WITH HIM AFTER!

REVERSING THE DIRECTION THE LOOS' SWIMMING IS AN OLD UNBELLACK STUNT THAT COMES IN MIGHTY HANDY-- SO HERE GOES!



BUT, RUNNING LIGHTLY ACROSS THE LOGS, JIMMY REACHES THE PRECIOUS BOX FIRST...

LOOK AT THE GAP! WE'RE THREE AGAINST ONE--AN' HE WANTS TO SHOOT IT OUT WITH US!

SURE! BUT YOU VARMINTS HAVE FORGOTTEN SOMETHING--



YOUR GUNS ARE WET AND WON'T FIRE--MINE IS DRY AND READY TO SHOOT... UNLESS YOU GIVE UP PROVED/RAISE 'EM!

HE--HE TRICKED US!

HE'S GOT US LICKED! D-DON'T SHOOT, WAKELY! WE SURRENDER!



IN TOWN, AFTER THE GHOST RAIDERS HAVE BEEN JAILED, THE SHERIFF EXAMINES THE CONTENTS OF THE MYSTERIOUS BOX...

HOLY SNAKE! THE BOX CONTAINS FULL CONFESSIONS OF ALL CRIMES BY THE GANG...AND THEIR FINGERPRINTS!

I THINK I CAN EXPLAIN THAT, SHERIFF! YOU SEE, THE GHOST RAIDERS NEVER KNEW THE REAL IDENTITIES OF ONE ANOTHER! THEY NEVER SAW EACH OTHER UNMASKED!



AND TO PREVENT ANY ONE OF THEM FROM DOUBLE-CROSSING THE REST, THEY PUT EVIDENCE AGAINST THEMSELVES IN THIS STRONGBOX! THAT WAY THEY, ALL HELD A THREAT OVER EACH OTHER!

WHEN? NO WONDER THEY WERE SO ANNOYED TO RECOVER IT! IF THEIR SECRET EVER GOT OUT, THEIR CROOKED GAME WOULD BE THROUGH!



STILL LATER... IN THE TOWN GENERAL STORE...

KHOOOO, I WANT TO APOLOGISE! I DON'T BELIEVE YOUR YARN AT THE BEGINNING...

SUCKS, JIMMY, I DON'T BLAME YOU! I'LL ADMIT I'VE TOLD PLENTY OF WHOPPERS--BUT I LEARNED MY LESSON! FROM NOW ON, I'M REALLY STICKIN' TO PLAIN FACTS!



THE END

**A Complete Picture-Story  
of a Thrilling **NEW** Movie  
**BEFORE** it Hits the Screen!**

**FEATURE FILMS**

*Presents*

**CAPTAIN  
CHINA**



**THAT'S WHAT  
YOU'LL GET IN  
EVERY ISSUE  
OF  
FEATURE  
FILMS**

- THE SMASHING FIRST ISSUE IS A DRAMATIZATION OF PARAMOUNT'S SWASHBUCKLING TALE OF ADVENTURE ON THE HIGH SEAS... THE STORY OF THE RENEGADE SKIPPER WHO LOSES HIS SHIP AND HIS GOOD NAME BEFORE HE BATTLES HIS WAY BACK TO SELF-RESPECT AND THE LOVE OF A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN!

**DON'T  
MISS THIS  
GREAT FIRST  
ISSUE!**

**READ THE PICTURE-STORY  
— THEN SEE IT ON  
THE SCREEN!**

# JIMMY WAKELY

MAKING A WESTERN MOVIE IN THE NATURAL SETTING OF THE GOLDEN WEST, IS OFTEN HARD, GRUELING WORK-- A FAR CRY FROM THE IDEAL STUDIO SETS UNDER WHICH THE REST OF HOLLYWOOD WORKS!

... AND THAT'S WHY HOLLYWOOD'S CONVICTION CAVALIER, JIMMY WAKELY, IS VERY DUBIOUS WHEN HE LEARNS THAT HIS STUDIO HAS SIGNED HIM TO CO-STAR WITH A FAMOUS YOUNG ACTRESS WHO HAS THE REPUTATION OF BEING A PRIMA DONNA AND AS HARD TO HANDLE AS THEY COME...

## "Jimmy Wakely and the Hollywood Queen"



AS THE FEAR-MADDENED TEAM GALLOPS BLINDLY TO-WARDS DISASTER, JIMMY WAKELY TRIES A LONG AND DESPERATE LARLIT-- GAST--



SUDDENLY, FROM A SMALL KNOT OF ONLOOKERS WHO WERE WATCHING THE HORSE-MADONS-- A SLIM FIGURE DARTS FORWARD...





WITH A LEAP, THE COURAGEOUS GIRL LANDS ON THE BACK OF ONE OF THE LEAD ANIMALS...



EASY BOY... EASY! IF I CAN ONLY GET THE BIT OUT OF HIS TEETH-- TURN HIS HEAD-- THE OTHERS WILL TURN TOO!



AT THE LAST INSTANT, WITH THE PRICIPLOS YAWNING BEFORE HER...

DID IT! BUT GOSH--THAT WAS CLOSE! ALL RIGHT, BOYS-- YOU CAN RUN AS FAR AND AS FAST AS YOU WANT TO NOW-- UNTIL YOU'RE CALMED DOWN...



LOOKIT THAT GIRL RIDE! SHE'S GIVIN' 'EM THEIR HEADS NOW! THAT'S SMART OF HER, JIMMY!

SHE'S TERRIFIC! LISTEN, HARK--I'VE GOT AN IDEA-- CHON!



WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A LEADING LADY FOR MY NEXT PICTURE! WHY DON'T WE HIRE THIS GIRL AND GIVE HER A CHANCE?

SHELL, JIMMY! LET'S TALK TO HER--

BUT WHEN THE FOUR REACHES THE TICKETED OUT TEAM...



HERE'S THE TEAM!... SHE'S JIND SOND! BUT WHERE'S THE GIRL?

THAT'S ODD... SHE'S VANISHED! I WONDER WHO SHE IS?

THE NEXT DAY, IN ALL THE HOLLYWOOD NEWSPRESS...



OD HERALD  
Y WAKEL  
GIR

HOLLYWOOD SHORTS  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
JIMMY WAKELY HAS A HOLLYWOOD CONTRACT READY FOR THE UNKNOWN GIRL WHO SAVED A TEAM OF HORSES ON LOCATION YESTERDAY! ALL SHE HAS TO DO IS TO APPEAR AT HIS STUDIO!

PUBLIC NOTICE  
JIMMY WAKELY HAS A HOLLYWOOD CONTRACT READY FOR THE UNKNOWN GIRL WHO SAVED A TEAM OF HORSES ON LOCATION YESTERDAY! ALL SHE HAS TO DO IS TO APPEAR AT HIS STUDIO!





ON THE STUDIO LOT, JIMMY RECEIVES A MESSAGE FROM HIS BOSS...

FROM MR. DAVIS, JIMMY!

THE CHIEF WANTS TO SEE ME IN HIS OFFICE... SAY, MABE HE'S FOUND THE MYSTERY GIRL! BETTER GET OVER THERE RIGHT AWAY--

CLOSE  
5:11-17 PM  
CAMERA  
SHIFT 6-7 SET 4

A FEW MOMENTS LATER...

I HAVE EXCITING NEWS, JIMMY! I'VE ARRANGED FOR YOU AND MISS MORLEY TO CO-STAR IN YOUR NEXT PICTURE!

WHY, IT'S DIANA MORLEY! AGNE PICTURES TOP STAR!

WHAT'S WRONG, MR. WAKELY? YOU SEEM DISAPPOINTED!

SORRY, MISS MORLEY! IT'S JUST THAT I CAME HERE EXPECTING TO FIND MR. SOMEBODY ELSE!

LATER--ON LOCATION TO START THE NEW PICTURE...

WE'LL NEVER GET ALONG WITH DIANA MORLEY, JIMMY! I HEARD SHE WAS TEMPERAMENTAL--AND HERE SHE'S AN HOUR LATE ON OUR FIRST DAYS' WORK!

LET'S GIVE HER A CHANGE, HANK!

YOU KNOW, I'D GIVE ANYTHING IF IT COULD BE THAT UNKNOWN GIRL WHO WAS WORKING WITH ME ON THIS PICTURE! WHAT COULD'VE HAPPENED TO HER?

JIMMY! BLUE BLAZES, JIMMY! LOOK WHAT'S COMIN'--

DIANA MORLEY MAKES A DRAAMATIC ARRIVAL-- IN SPECTACULAR HOLLYWOOD STYLE!

SO THIS IS HOW SHE COMES TO WORK--IN A SUPER TRAILER, WITH HER OWN BUTLER, MAID, AND PRESS AGENT!

HELLO, EVERYBODY! I'M READY TO BEGIN!



AS THE FIRST SCENE IS FILMED...

OH, NO! MR. WAKELY! WE CAN'T ALLOW DIANA TO PROP FROM THAT TRELLIS WITH YOU! SHE'S MUCH TOO VALUABLE—WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES OF HER GETTING HURT! THE SCRIPT WILL HAVE TO BE CHANGED!



DURING THE NEXT SHOT, DIANA'S PRESS AGENT AGAIN INTERVIEWS...

GOSH! DIANA ISN'T ALLOWED TO RIDE EITHER. HER CONTRACT FORBIDS IT!

HAHA! APPARENTLY SHE CAN'T DO ANYTHING BUT LOOK GLAMOROUS! A FINE PICTURE THIS IS GOING TO BE!



JIMMY REACHES A MOMENTOUS DECISION LATE THAT AFTERNOON...

HANK, I'M GOING TO HAVE A TALK WITH MISS MORLEY! SHE'S GOT TO SEE THAT SHE'S BEING BADLY MISCAST IN A WESTERN PICTURE!

JIMMY, UNLESS YOU GET THAT PRIMA DONNA TO WITHDRAW FROM THE PICTURE—IT'LL BE THE BIGGEST FLOP IN HISTORY!



INSIDE THE DELUXE TRILER...

MISS MORLEY'S NOT HERE, MR. WAKELY! SHE STEPPED OUT FOR A LITTLE WALK...

THANK YOU. I'LL LOOK AROUND AND SEE IF I CAN FIND HER!



AT THE REAR OF THE TRILER, JIMMY MAKES A STARTLING DISCOVERY...

BY GOSH, IT'S THE MYSTERY GIRL WHO SAVED THE TEAM!

SCREECH GRABEL, BOY!

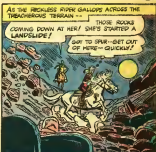
HELLO! COME BACK HERE!



THE GIRL, PAYING NO HEED TO HIS CRY, JIMMY WHIPTS INTO THE SADDLE AND...

SHE WON'T GET AWAY FROM ME THIS TIME! I'LL OOH HEE—FIND OUT WHO SHE IS—AND WHY SHE ACTS SO STRANGELY! BY, SONNY!





THE STUDIO KEEPS ME PRACTICALLY A PRISONER-- SO I USED TO SNEAK OFF TO WATCH YOUR COMPANY ON LOCATION! THAT'S WHEN YOU SAW ME WITH THOSE DARK GLASSES! YOU SEE, I REALLY LOVE THE WEST--AS A KID I WAS BROUGHT UP ON A RANCH! I'M NO PRIMA DONNA--IT'S JUST MY PRESS AGENT'S IDEA OF A GOOD PUBLICITY STUNT--



DIANA, IF ONLY YOU COULD CUT LOOSE IN OUR PICTURE AND BE YOURSELF-- IT WOULD BE TERRIFIC!

MY PRESS AGENT WOULD NEVER LET ME! HE'D CONTACT THE STUDIO--HAVE THEM STOP ME! BUT WAIT--I HAVE AN IDEA, JIMMY!



LATER--BACK IN THE SUMPTUOUS TRAILER--

JERRY, WILL YOU STEP IN HERE, PLEASE? I--ER--WANT TO TALK TO YOU!

CERTAINLY, DIANA! WHAT ABOUT?



THE NEXT MOMENT--AS THE PRESS AGENT IS LOOKED IN THE ROOM--

WE'VE GOT HIM, DIANA! GOOD WORK!

WE'LL KEEP HIM IN HERE UNTIL THE PICTURE IS FINISHED! COME ON, JIMMY! LET'S GET STARTED!



A WEEK LATER, BACK IN HOLLYWOOD, AS DIANA'S STUDIO CHIEF SEES THE FIRST RUSHES OF THE NEW PICTURE--

WHAT FOOLS WE WERE TO PREVENT DIANA FROM RIDING AND TAKING CHANCES! WHY, SHE'S WONDERFUL! THIS FILM WILL MAKE HER MORE POPULAR THAN EVER!

YOU SAID IT, CHIEF!



STILL LATER...

WE'VE WON, DIANA! YOU CAN PLAY WESTERN ROLES ANYTIME YOU WANT TO NOW!

DO YOU THINK IT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT JERRY?

YOU BET IT WILL! I'LL GET YOU SO MUCH PUBLICITY OUT OF THIS PICTURE, THEY WILL BE CALLING YOU THE QUEEN OF HOLLYWOOD!

